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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of :
Sakagami et al. :
Application No. 10,051,098 : Letter Regarding PTA
Filed: January 22, 2002 :
Attorney Docket No. 4853-0023-02 :

This is in response to the "COMMUNICATION RE PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT," filed June 24, 2004. Applicants disclose that a terminal disclaimer was submitted in this application and thus, an adjustment of the patent term is not warranted.

The request for correction of the patent term adjustment (PTA) is **DISMISSED**.

Patentees are given **thirty (30) days** from the mail date of this decision to respond. No extensions of time will be granted under § 1.136.

35 U.S.C. 154(b)(2)(B) provides that:

No patent the term of which has been disclaimed beyond a specified date may be adjusted under this section beyond the expiration date specified in the disclaimer.

37 CFR § 1.703(g) provides that:

No patent, the term of which has been disclaimed beyond a specified date, shall be adjusted under § 1.702 and this section beyond the expiration date specified in the disclaimer.

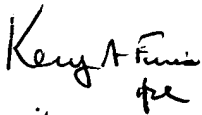
The provisions of § 154(b), for adjustment due to examination delay, apply to original applications¹, other than designs, filed on or after May 29, 2000. The Office calculates patent term adjustment for examination delay in all eligible applications. In calculating the patent term adjustment, the Office does not differentiate between applications that have terminal disclaimers and those that do not. Nor does the Office undertake the burdensome task of reviewing every application with a terminal disclaimer to determine if the patent term adjustment accorded would adjust the term beyond the expiration date specified in the disclaimer.

¹ Since a continued prosecution application (CPA) under § 1.53(d) is a new application, the filing of a CPA application on or after May 29, 2000, in an application filed before May 29, 2000 causes the application (CPA) to be eligible for patent term adjustment.

Rather, on issuance of the application, in compliance with 35 U.S.C. 154(b) and 37 CFR § 1.703(g), it is indicated in the patent that the patent term adjustment indicated therein is subject to any disclaimer. Moreover, it is also stated therein that the patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

As this letter was submitted as an advisement to the Office of an error in Applicants' favor, the Office will not assess the \$200.00 application fee under 37 CFR 1.705(b). The Office thanks applicants for their good faith and candor in bringing this to the attention of the Office.

Telephone inquiries specific to this matter should be directed to Kery A. Fries, Senior Legal Advisor, at (571) 272-7757

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karin Ferriter", with a small flourish underneath.

Karin Ferriter
Senior Legal Advisor
Office of Patent Legal Administration
Office of Deputy Commissioner
for Patent Examination Policy